## John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Unit NJ-04, Conaskonk Point, New Jersey Summary of Proposed Changes

Type of Unit: System Unit

Location of Unit: Monmouth County,

New Jersey

**Congressional District**: 6

Date of Draft Map: May 16, 2016

Number of Maps: Unit NJ-04 is

depicted on one map.

## **Base Map Imagery Source and Date:**

U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agriculture Imagery Program, 2015

**Establishment of Unit**: The Coastal Barrier Improvement Act (Pub. L. 101-591 enacted on November 16, 1990) originally established Unit NJ-04.

Historical Changes to Unit: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) modified the boundary of Unit NJ-04 (via notice published in the Federal Register (80 FR 25314) on May 4, 2015) to reflect natural changes that occurred to the wetland/fastland interface and the southernmost edge of Chingarora Creek. These modifications were made in accordance with Section 3 of Pub. L. 101-591, which allows for modifications to the Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) boundaries to reflect changes that have occurred as a result of natural forces.

Proposed Changes to Unit: The comprehensively revised draft map dated May 16, 2016, modifies the boundary of Unit NJ-04 to remove from the CBRS portions of the Bayshore Regional Sewerage Authority Wastewater Treatment Facility and the Monmouth County Bayshore Outfall (comprising about 20 acres and including several structures). The Service's assessment (based on the level of development on the ground in 1990 and the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA)

development criteria (16 U.S.C. 3503(g)(1)) indicates that these areas are appropriate for removal from Unit NJ-04 because they were developed at the time they were included within the CBRS. The facility and outfall were included within the CBRS in error because the draft map for the unit was prepared using a 1977 U.S. Geological Survey Topographic Quadrangle (quad) as the base map, and the quad depicted the area as wetlands.

A buffer of approximately 100 feet has been applied to the northeastern side of the sewage treatment plant to allow for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to construct a planned levee to protect the facility from future storm damage. This proposed modification to the boundary is made in accordance with the Service's protocol for critical facilities that is described in a notice in the *Federal Register* (81 FR 44320). The Corps has certified to the Service that there is no reasonable alternative for the protection of the facility.

The boundary of the unit is also modified to add to the CBRS areas that meet the CBRA criteria for an undeveloped coastal barrier, including some privately owned wetlands and wetlands owned by the Borough of Union Beach.

## Conaskonk Point Unit NJ-04, New Jersey

## **Acreage, Shoreline, and Structures:**

	TotalAcres	$Fastland\ Acres^*$	Associated Aquatic Habitat Acres**	Shoreline (miles)	Structures***
Existing Unit	232	49	183	1.6	
Added to the CBRS	24	1	23		0
Removed from the CBRS	21	15	6		8
Reclassified Area	0	0	0		
Proposed Unit	235	35	200	1.6	
Net Change	3	(14)	17	0.0	(8)

<sup>\*</sup>Land above mean high tide.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Ecological Services 5275 Leesburg Pike Falls Church, VA 22041 703-358-2171 www.fws.gov/cbra





<sup>\*\*</sup>Associated aquatic habitat includes wetlands, marshes, estuaries, inlets, and open water landward of the coastal barrier, but does not include open water seaward of the shoreline. This information is derived from an interpretation of 2015 aerial imagery in consultation with National Wetlands Inventory data and other data sources as necessary.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Approximate structure count derived from 2015 aerial imagery. Structures without walls and a roof (e.g., picnic shelters) and structures with fewer than 200 square feet are not included in this structure count because they do not meet the definition of a "structure" in 16 U.S.C. 3503(g)(2).